

Senate Bill No. 1287

CHAPTER 409

An act to amend Section 7150 of the Fish and Game Code, relating to fish.

[Approved by Governor September 20, 2012. Filed with
Secretary of State September 20, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1287, Harman. Sport fishing licenses.

Under existing law, a sport fishing license grants the privilege to take fish, reptiles, and amphibia. Existing law requires the Department of Fish and Game to issue a sport fishing license, upon payment of a fee, to eligible California residents and nonresidents, as specified. Existing law requires the department to issue a reduced fee sport fishing license, as specified, to a disabled veteran, as defined, that is valid for the calendar year of issue, or, if issued after the beginning of the year, for the remainder of the year.

This bill would also require the department to issue a reduced fee sport fishing license to active military personnel who are recovering service members, as defined, and who demonstrate eligibility, as prescribed.

Existing law establishes the lengths of time a sport fishing license is valid, including for a period of one calendar year, for anyone over 16 years of age, as provided.

This bill would provide that a reduced fee sport fishing license is valid for one year as specified by existing law.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 7150 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

7150. (a) Upon application to the department's headquarters office in Sacramento and payment of a base fee of four dollars (\$4), as adjusted pursuant to Section 713, the following persons, who have not been convicted of any violation of this code, shall be issued a reduced fee sport fishing license that is valid for one year as specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 7149 or paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 7149.05 and that authorizes the licensee to take any fish, reptile, or amphibians anywhere in this state as otherwise authorized pursuant to this code and regulations adopted pursuant thereto for purposes other than profit:

(1) A disabled veteran having a 50 percent or greater service-connected disability upon presentation of proof of an honorable discharge from military

service and proof of the disability. Proof of the disability shall be by certification from the United States Veterans Administration or by presentation of a license issued pursuant to this paragraph in the preceding license year.

(2) A member of the military who is a “recovering service member” pursuant to Section 1602(7) of the federal National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181). A person shall be eligible for a reduced fee sport fishing license pursuant to this paragraph upon the submission of a letter, online or in hardcopy, to the department from that person’s commanding officer or from a military medical doctor stating that the person is a recovering service member.

(3) A person over 65 years of age who is a resident of this state and whose total monthly income from all sources, including any old age assistance payments, does not exceed the amount in effect on September 1 of each year contained in subdivision (c) of Section 12200 of the Welfare and Institutions Code for single persons or subdivision (d) of Section 12200 of the Welfare and Institutions Code combined income for married persons, as adjusted pursuant to that section. The amount in effect on September 1 of each year shall be the amount used to determine eligibility for a reduced fee license during the following calendar year.

(b) A person applying for a reduced fee sport fishing license shall submit adequate documentation for the department to determine whether the applicant is, in fact, eligible for a reduced fee sport fishing license. The documentation shall be in the form of a letter or other document, as specified by the department, from a public agency, except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a). The department shall not issue a reduced fee sport fishing license to any person unless it is satisfied that the applicant has provided adequate documentation of eligibility for that license.

(c) The adjustment of the base fee pursuant to Section 713 specified in subdivision (a) shall be applicable to the fishing license years beginning on or after January 1, 1996.